REGISTRATION AND LOCATION

The 40th Annual TESOL Convention and Exhibit will be held in Tampa, Florida, in the United States. The convention will take place March 15–18, 2006, in the Tampa Convention Center (http://www.tampagov.net/dept_Convention_Center/) and the Tampa Marriott Waterside Hotel and Marina (http://marriott.com/property/propertytype/TPAMC). The average March temperature in Tampa is 76 (high)/56 (low).

Attendee and Exhibitor Registration

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Attendees: Preregistration is highly recommended to avoid long lines at the Registration counters at the Tampa Convention Center; it is also less expensive than registering on site. Attendees can pick up their Program Book, tote bag, and badge at the Registration counters located on the second floor mezzanine area of the convention center. TESOL convention badges must be worn at all times in the convention center and while attending sessions at the Marriott Waterside. Typos on badges are corrected at the Badge Reprint counter on the second floor mezzanine area. The fee to replace a lost badge is $25. Pick-up hours are the same as registration hours. The 2005 attendee convention registration form and information can be found on pages 31–34.

Exhibitors: Preregistration is highly recommended to avoid long lines at the registration counters at the Tampa Convention Center. Exhibitors can register at the Exhibitor Registration counters on the second floor mezzanine area of the convention center. All exhibitors who are staffing booths should be registered and wearing badges by Wednesday, March 15. The Exhibit Hall opens at 9 am on Wednesday, March 15. ExpoPasses can be picked up at the Exhibitor Registration counter on the day they are needed. Additional exhibitor full registration and ExpoPasses can also be purchased at the Exhibitor Registration counters. Typos on badges are corrected at the Badge Reprint counter on the second floor mezzanine area. The fee to replace a lost badge is $25. The exhibitor registration form can be found in the Exhibitor Kit mailed in late November to the booth contact for all contracted exhibitors.

Banks

Wachovia
300 North Franklin Street
813-221-1993

Bank of America
101 East Kennedy Boulevard
813-225-8497

Business Center

The Tampa Convention Center Business Center is located near the West Hall entrance. TESOL is also providing additional mailing, faxing, and copying services through Sack Sitters, which will be located on the other side of the West Hall, on the mezzanine level of the convention center.

Food and Beverages

All food and beverages inside the Tampa Convention Center must be purchased from the convention center’s exclusive catering company. Food can be purchased in the Exhibit Hall at the Sidewalk Cafe, the concession area located near the Rotunda, and food service trolleys located throughout the convention center. Additional restaurants and services are located outside the convention center and at local hotels.

Medical Facilities

Local 24-Hour Clinic
International Travelers Clinic of Tampa Bay
4 Columbia Drive, Suite 820
813-251-8444

Tampa General Hospital
2 Columbia Drive
813-844-7000

Parking for the Tampa Convention Center

Within 2 blocks of the Tampa Convention Center:

- Convention Center Garage: (450 spaces) Located at Brorein and Tampa Street; maximum vehicle height is 6’8”.
- South Regional Garage: (1,000 spaces) Located on Channelside; maximum vehicle height is 6’8”.
- Crosstown Meter Lot: (160 spaces) Located on Brorein between Ashley and Florida; parking meters accept quarters only and are enforced from 8 am to midnight daily.

Pharmacy

CVS
220 East Madison Avenue North
Store Phone: 813-228-0084
Pharmacy Phone: 813-228-0084
Store Hours: Mon.–Fri., 6 am–7 pm; Sat., 8 am–5 pm; Sun., 9 am–3 pm
Pharmacy Hours: Mon.–Fri., 8 am–6 pm

Tampa Convention Center Information Desk

Franklin Street Entrance of Tampa Convention Center
Convention center staff will be available 9 am–5 pm, Monday–Friday, to answer questions about the convention center and the city of Tampa.

Tour Sales

Tampa Bay Destinations will have a tour desk in the Registration area of the Tampa Convention Center. Tickets can be purchased at this counter for tours that have not sold out. Convention attendees with tickets for TESOL-arranged tours of Tampa or other Florida attractions should meet in front of the convention center in the circular shuttle drop-off driveway. Please arrive 15 minutes before the departure time printed on the ticket.

TRANSPORTATION

Airport Information

Tampa International Airport is located approximately 10 miles from downtown Tampa. The airport is 2–5 miles from hotels in the Westshore area, depending on the hotel location. Airlines that fly into Tampa are Air Canada, Air Tran, AmericaWest, British Airways, Continental, Delta, Frontier, Independence Air, JetBlue, Midwest, Northwest, Song, Southwest, Spirit, Ted, United, US Air, and a few smaller carriers.

Depending on the mode of travel and current traffic conditions, you should allow approximately 20–25 minutes to get from the airport to downtown Tampa and 10–15 minutes to get from the airport to the Westshore area.

Airport Transportation

Bay Shuttle. Shared passenger van service is provided from the Commercial Ground Transportation Quadrants located at all four corners of the baggage claim level at the airport. Call 866-259-9929 or 813-259-9998.

Car Rentals. TESOL does not have an official car rental company. Most major car rental companies, including Avis, Budget, Dollar, Hertz, and Thrifty, are located at the main airport terminal.

Taxicabs. The minimum fare from the airport is about $10. The flat rate for the 10-mile drive to downtown Tampa is about $20. All other areas are served on meter rates, which are subject to change.

Hotel Transportation

All the hotels located in the Westshore area of Tampa offer airport pick-up and drop-off. See pages 38–39 for downtown Tampa hotels that provide airport shuttle service.

Public Transportation

HARTline route #30 (Town N’ Country) provides local city bus service to and from Tampa International Airport. The bus stop is at the east end of the red baggage claim. HARTline operates many bus routes, including a free trolley service in the downtown area. Visit http://www.hartline.org for routes, schedules, and cost, or call 813-254-4278 for more information.
About the Convention

TESOL SERVICES AND INFORMATION

Academic Credit
Earn continuing education units (CEUs) and graduate credits by attending TESOL's 2006 convention. For information, contact TESOL's Education Programs Department at edprograms@tesol.org.

Attendance Certificates
Certificates of attendance are in each registration packet on site. You must attend to receive a certificate.

Awards and Grants
TESOL-sponsored awards and grants are made possible by the generous support of TESOL members. The proceeds from the raffle ticket sales greatly benefit the awards and grants program. To learn more about this program, plan to attend the workshop "TESOL Awards Are for You" on Wednesday or Friday. Look on TESOL's Web site or in the Program Book for times and locations.

Children at TESOL
Children under the age of 12 should be accompanied by an adult during the convention. Parents are responsible for their children's behavior for the duration of the convention. As a courtesy to all attendees, presenters, and exhibitors, disruptive children, as well as adults, may be asked to leave the convention.

Cyber Café
Wednesday 9 am–5 pm
Thursday 9 am–5 pm
Friday 9 am–5 pm
Saturday 9 am–1 pm
Check your e-mail and keep in touch by visiting the Cyber Café, located between aisles 400 and 500 in the middle of the East Exhibit Hall in the Tampa Convention Center.

Doctoral Forum
Wednesday, March 15, 6–8 pm
Room 22, Tampa Convention Center
This event brings together doctoral students and established TESOL scholars to discuss issues pertinent to the students’ research. Time will be set aside for two panel discussions and for students to network among themselves and work in small groups with TESOL mentors. For more information, please go to http://www.tesol.org/ and click on Membership: Student Membership: Doctoral Forum, or send an e-mail to studentmembers@tesol.org.

Graduate Student Forum
Tuesday, March 14, 8:30 am–5 pm
Rooms 20–25, 30A, 30B, Tampa Convention Center
Sponsored by California State Polytechnic University-Pomona, this one-day miniconference invites graduate students in TESOL teacher preparation programs to present papers, demonstrations, and posters. For more information, including proposal forms, please go to http://www.tesol.org/ and click on Membership: Student Membership: Graduate Student Forum, or send an e-mail to studentmembers@tesol.org.

Handouts
Each presenter should bring at least 100–200 copies of his or her presentation handout because session attendees sometimes take multiple handouts to give to peers who do not attend. TESOL has no control over this procedure other than making numerous requests to presenters. TESOL strongly encourages presenters to submit their session handouts in advance so TESOL can make them available on the association’s Web site, http://www.tesol.org/. Starting January 13, the presenter handout site will be available on the 2006 convention page, with a direct link called “Presenter Handouts.” This site will change weekly as new handouts are submitted and will remain open through May 2006.

Sack Sitters will be located on the mezzanine level of the convention center, near the West Hall. Attendees can pay a nominal fee to receive copies of handouts, if provided by presenters, including those that have been submitted online.

Interpreters for the Hearing Impaired
To request an interpreter please contact Cindy Savery at csavery@tesol.org. Interpreters can also be requested during the convention in room 39 at the Tampa Convention Center.

Job MarketPlace
Recruiters and job seekers from all over the world meet at the Job MarketPlace to fill a variety of English language teaching jobs: long- and short-term; teaching and administrative; public and private; primary, secondary, adult, and higher education. The Job MarketPlace will be located in the Central Hall at the Tampa Convention Center. For more information, see page 24.

Networking Mall
Ballrooms C & D, Tampa Convention Center
The Networking Mall is a place for attendees to get together, meet, and exchange ideas. It is home to Energy Breaks, Poster Sessions, the Swap Shop, and the Message Center.

Pre- and Postconvention Institutes
Pre- and Postconvention Institutes (PCIs) are practical workshops designed as professional development opportunities and are offered Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday during the convention. PCIs are ticketed events and require separate registration. See pages 18–21 for more information.

Services for the Physically Challenged
The Tampa Convention Center is fully wheelchair accessible and in compliance with ADA regulations.

Swap Shop
Great lesson plans for free! Share your ideas, swap lesson plans with others, have fun, participate, and increase your teaching repertoire. The Swap Shop will be located in the Networking Mall (in Ballrooms C and D at the Tampa Convention Center) and will be open Friday and Saturday, 8:30–11:15 am. To participate in the Swap Shop, bring 200 copies of your favorite lesson plan with you to the convention. On the first page of your lesson plan, clearly list your name, school, and level (e.g., elementary, secondary, adult). Drop off the copies of your lesson plan at the Swap Shop anytime during the convention.

TESOL Booth
The TESOL booth (#123) will be located just inside the East Exhibit Hall of the Tampa Convention Center and will be staffed Wednesday–Friday, 9 am–5 pm, and Saturday, 9 am–2 pm. Meet the authors and editors of various TESOL publications, purchase books, purchase a TESOL 40th anniversary pin, check on your TESOL membership, or become a member of TESOL. Additional copies of the Program Book can be purchased at the TESOL booth for $10 during the convention. After the convention, the Program Book can be ordered from TESOL’s Communications and Marketing Department for $24.95.

TESOL Ticketed Events Counter

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The ticket counter, marked “TESOL Ticket Sales,” will be on one end of the registration counters in the Registration area of the Tampa Convention Center. Until they are sold out, tickets will be sold for the following events: Educational Visits, Pre- and Postconvention Institutes (PCIs), Energy Breaks, Leadership Development Certificate Program, Job Search Workshops, Research Symposium, Evening Leadership Forum.